

Commercial radio has effectively become worthless to me. "Controlled", more or less as it clearly seems to be, by the record labels (among other vested interests) there is little variety but rather commercial radio has become nothing more than a soapbox for the labels to promote what they want us to hear and, ultimately, what they want us to buy. The only possible exception to this characterization would be the public radio stations (NPR) but that is an extremely limited choice in any given area.

Satellite radio on the other hand offers the unique programming and variety of public radio in a format that eclipses all types of AM/FM programming in both variety, content and availability. The NAB, rather than trying to compete with the vastly improved listening options of satellite radio, is choosing instead the tried, if not true, path of legislating the competition out of existence. This should not be allowed.

Aside from the above, satellite radio, just as with cable television, is an option for which I choose to pay thus is not available to just anyone with a tuner as is "free" commercial radio. As such, satellite radio is not so much a direct competitor, per se, to the agenda of the NAB as they would have it be perceived. Thus, having chosen to vote with my hard earned dollars for a huge improvement over the canned offerings of commercial radio I can find no valid reason that I should not be allowed to continue to enjoy such freedom of choice, the canted desires of the NAB to just make it go away notwithstanding.

I respectfully urge the FCC to reject the NAB's petition 04-160 and to support XM's ability to provide the kind of programming that I have chosen over the NAB's desire to dictate what I can, and more importantly, cannot hear.